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No. 115—Part II

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, August 1, 2003, at 4 p.m.

Senate

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2003

(Legislative day of Monday, July 21, 2003)

COMMERCIAL AIRLINE HIJACKINGS

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Madam President, I have been trying to find the appropriate wrinkle in this important debate on the Energy bill to share with the Senate something that I heard on the radio this morning that almost caused me to drive off the road.

Given the fact that we have, over the last couple of weeks, just gone through and passed an important bill with regard to the Department of Homeland Defense, given the fact that former Senators Warren Rudman and Gary Hart have compiled a major report continuing to warn us that we are dangerously unprepared to prevent and respond to a catastrophic terrorist attack in the U.S., and given the fact that we are all, every day, reminded of the war on terror and how we are going to protect ourselves, something I heard on the radio this morning makes me wonder that we must not be listening.

According to intelligence reports made public yesterday, terrorists may be plotting suicide missions by hijacking commercial airliners, most likely in the United States, but clearly it could be anywhere in the world. Such a plot is detailed in a memo from our own Transportation Security Administration. I want to quote from it:

The plan may involve the use of five-man teams, each of which would attempt to seize control of a commercial aircraft either shortly after takeoff or shortly before landing at a chosen airport. This type of operation would preclude the need for flight-trained hijackers.

Madam President, the threat that we face from terrorist organizations is still with us ever since we were rudely awakened on September 11. And interestingly, at the same time that we are informed of these potential new terrorist plots, the Transportation Security Administration, in a shocking disclosure that I heard on the radio today, reportedly intends to cancel air marshals on some of our most vulnerable commercial flights.

And if that is not enough, they are reportedly also cutting back on the training for new air marshals. In the wake of these reports, the agency says it has every available air marshal deployed right now and additional resources are being directed to this critical program. I certainly hope so.

The air marshal program was instituted as the front line of defense against would-be hijackers. Just knowing there is someone trained and armed who is usually sitting in the first-class section if somebody is trying to bust forward into the cockpit is a great comfort. What is the reasoning behind these reported cuts I heard on the radio that almost caused me to run off the road? It is that the Transportation Security Administration does not want to pay for the hotel rooms for the air marshals for overnight stays.

What price do we pay for security? That is almost like saying, while we are at it, we are going to get rid of the x-ray machines in security lines at the airports because we want to save on electricity, which, of course, is a ridiculous argument.

The Transportation Security Administration, according to the news reports, says it is trying to save \$104 million. That might be a laudable goal, but I suggest we ought to start looking at the \$8 million program that has already been spent in the Pentagon that has recently come to the fore and has caused such a flap. That is the program that would allow people to gamble on the likelihood of terrorist attacks and assassinations, on which we have all joined in mutual disgust—that there was such a program.

Now having been denied that program, it will not continue, said the Deputy Secretary of Defense in testimony yesterday before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and yet that was an \$8 million program.

I have been waiting all day to say—and I thank the Senators for their indulgence—that when it comes to the defense of our citizens, we cannot afford to cut corners. If we do, we will have forgotten the lessons of September 11. I hope the radio report I heard this morning that they are seriously considering cutting back on the air marshals program is not true. Clearly, let's not forget the lessons of September 11.

I thank the Chair.

BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I hereby submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report prepared by the Congressional Budget Office under Section 308(b) and in aid of Section 311 of

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended. This report meets the requirements for Senate scorekeeping of Section 5 of S. Con. Res. 32, the First Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for 1986.

This report shows the effects of congressional action on the 2004 budget through July 28, 2003. The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of the 2004 Concurrent Resolution on the Budget, H. Con. Res. 95, as adjusted.

The estimates show that current level spending is above the budget resolution by \$1.833 billion in budget authority and by \$2.985 billion in outlays in 2003. Current level for revenues is \$1 million below the budget resolution in 2003.

Since my last report, dated July 3, 2003, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the following acts that changed budget authority, outlays, or revenues: the Veterans' Memorial Preservation and Recognition Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-29), the Welfare Reform Extension Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-40), and the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act (P.L. 108-61).

I ask unanimous consent to print a cover letter and attached tables in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, July 29, 2003.

Hon. DON NICKLES,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The attached tables show the effect of Congressional action on the 2003 budget and are current through July 28, 2003. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of H. Con. Res. 95, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2004, as adjusted.

Since my last report, dated June 2, 2003, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the following acts that changed budget authority, outlays, or revenues: the Veterans' Memorial Preservation and Recognition Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-29), the Welfare Reform Extension Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-40), and the Burmese Freedom and Democracy

Act (P.L. 108-61). The effects of these new laws are identified in Table 2.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. SUNSHINE
(for Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Director).

Attachments.

TABLE 1.—SENATE CURRENT-LEVEL REPORT FOR SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003, AS OF JULY 28, 2003

[In billions of dollars]

	Budget resolution	Current level ¹	Current level over/under (-) resolution
On-Budget:			
Budget Authority	1,874.0	1,875.8	1.8
Outlays	1,826.1	1,829.1	3.0
Revenues	1,310.3	1,310.3	(?)
Off-Budget:			
Social Security Outlays	366.3	366.3	0
Social Security Revenues	531.6	531.6	0

¹ Current level is the estimated effect on revenue and spending of all legislation that the Congress has enacted or sent to the President for his approval. In addition, full-year funding estimates under current law are included for entitlement and mandatory programs requiring annual appropriations even if the appropriations have not been made.

² Less than \$50 million.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

TABLE 2.—SUPPORTING DETAIL FOR THE SENATE CURRENT-LEVEL REPORT FOR ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003, AS OF JULY 28, 2003

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Enacted in previous sessions:			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	1,359,834
Permanents and other spending legislation	1,013,810	977,842	n.a.
Appropriation legislation	1,133,856	1,160,341	n.a.
Offsetting receipts	-369,104	-369,106	n.a.
Total, enacted in previous sessions	1,778,562	1,769,077	1,359,834
Enacted this session:			
Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2003 (P.L. 108-11)	79,190	42,024	2
Postal Civil Service Retirement System Funding Reform Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-18)	3,479	3,479	0
Gila River Indian Community Judgment Fund Distribution Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-22)	1	1	0
Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 2003 (P.L. 108-26)	3,165	3,165	0
Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-27)	11,347	11,347	-49,489
Veterans' Memorial Preservation and Recognition Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-29)	0	0	(?)
Welfare Reform Extension Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-40)	64	26	0
Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act (P.L. 108-61)	0	0	-1
Total	97,246	60,042	-49,488
Entitlements and mandates: Difference between enacted levels and budget resolution estimates for appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs	0	0	n.a.
Total Current Level ¹	1,875,808	1,829,119	1,310,346
Total Budget Resolution ¹	1,873,975	1,826,134	1,310,347
Current Level Over Budget Resolution	1,833	2,985	n.a.
Current Level Under Budget Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	1

¹ Excludes administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration, which are off-budget.

² Less than \$500,000.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

Note: n.a.=not applicable; P.L.=Public Law.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Private First Class Wilfredo Perez, Jr., United States Army, of Norwalk, CT. Private Perez's loyalty, patriotism, and selflessness has served to further the legacy of our great Nation's principles of freedom and justice. His service to our Nation is an example of the powerful spirit that permeates American history. His country, his family, his Army, his brothers-in-arms, and his friends from home will keenly miss Private Perez.

A mortarman in the 1st Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, PVT Perez and members of his unit were guarding a hospital where wounded comrades were being treated.

In a contemptible and cowardly act, a grenade was lobbed from the upper floors of the hospital, killing PVT Perez and two other gallant soldiers.

PVT Perez, or "Junior," as his family called him, was an outgoing and charming person, well liked and remembered fondly by both staff and classmates of Norwalk High School as someone who had found focus and was pursuing his dreams. He cared about his family, and had a propensity for the simple things in life, like playing golf with his dad, working on his car or skiing. He worked with his dad as a remodeling contractor prior to going into the Army and his family had high hopes for him as he started to plan for his future.

I am both proud and grateful that our military is made up of young men and

women whose values are exemplified by PVT Perez's service to the United States Army and his country. PVT Perez was a messenger of high justice and idealism in the best tradition of American principles and patriotism.

I join a grateful Nation in extending my heartfelt condolences to his family. Thank you for sharing this outstanding soldier with us. His country, his Army, his brothers-in-arms and his friends at home will keenly miss PVT Perez. You may be justifiably proud of his contributions to a noble cause and a people in need.

ANTHONY G. FREEMAN

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, at the end of this week, Anthony G. Freeman will leave the post of Director of the